

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-10 are pending in the application. Claims 3-4, 7-8 and 10 have been amended to avoid multiple dependency and to improve readability. No new matter has been added.

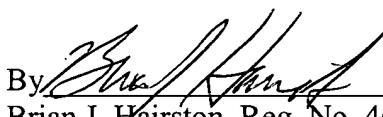
In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 21547-00301-US1 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated:

*January 12, 2005*

Respectfully submitted,

By   
Brian J. Hairston, Reg. No. 46,750  
CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP  
1990 M Street, N.W., Suite 800  
Washington, DC 20036-3425  
(202) 331-7111  
(202) 293-6229 (Fax)  
Attorney for Applicant